AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

A fluid pressure disturbance damping arrangement for a fluid-driven actuation device includes an actuator, a fluid pump, a fluid supply line for delivering fluid from the pump to the actuator at relatively high pressure and a fluid return line for delivering fluid from the actuator to the pump at relatively low pressure. The damping arrangement includes an elongate flexible damping hose in fluid communication with at least one of the supply and return lines. The hose includes a longitudinal axis and about the axis a peripheral wall defining, in a cross-sectional plane perpendicular to the axis, a non-circular area of magnitude related to pressure exerted on the peripheral wall by a contained fluid. The peripheral wall is responsive to impulsive or vibrational pressure disturbances in the contained fluid to deform and restore locally changing the shape of the cross-section area defined thereby to dissipate energy associated with the pressure disturbance.